AMENDMENT

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring a network of devices comprising the step of defining at least two types of device, and monitoring the different types of device using different monitoring procedures, in which said different monitoring procedures comprise interrogating said different types of device at different intervals.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 in which said different monitoring procedures further comprise interrogating said devices using different protocols.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1 in which said defined types of device comprise core devices and edge devices.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 in which said defined types of device are further defined in terms of the number of other devices a particular device is connected to.

6. (Original) A method of monitoring a network comprising the steps of determining the number of devices in the network to be monitored, and changing the monitoring procedure in accordance with the determined number.

7. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 6 in which the monitoring procedure includes interrogating the devices in the network and the step of changing the monitoring procedure comprises changing the frequency of interrogation of devices as the determined number changes.

8. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 6 in which the monitoring procedure includes interrogating the devices using a protocol and the step of changing the monitoring procedure comprises changing the protocol used to monitor devices as the determined number changes.

9. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 6 including the step of providing one or more ranges of numbers, and determining which range the determined number falls into, and changing the monitoring procedure in accordance with the range of numbers in which the determined number falls.

10. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 6 including the step of dividing the devices into types and monitoring the different types of devices using different monitoring procedures.

11. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1 in which said defined types of device comprise core devices and edge devices.

12. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1 in which said defined types of device are defined in terms of the number of other devices a particular device is connected to.

13. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 6 in which the step of determining the number of devices is initiated when a monitored device is added or removed from the network.

14. (Original) A computer program, or a computer program on a computer readable medium loadable into a digital computer, or embodied in a carrier wave, said computer program operating in accordance with the method as claimed in claim 1.

15. (Original) A computer program, or a computer program on a computer readable medium loadable into a digital computer, or embodied in a carrier wave, said computer program being adapted for monitoring a network of devices including first and second types of device, said computer program comprising the following steps;

a first program step to detect that a monitored device is added or removed;

a second program step to check the number of devices detected against ranges of numbers;

a third program step to determine if the number of devices has entered a different range of numbers;

a fourth program step in which if it is determined that the number of devices has not entered a new range, then no change is made to the interrogation interval;

a fifth program step in which if it is determined that the number of devices has entered a new range, then get new interrogation time intervals for said first and second types of devices;

a sixth program step to get all monitored devices;

a seventh program step to determine if another device is available;

an eighth program step in which if it is determined that another device is not available then finish;

a ninth program step in which if it is determined that another device is available then determine if it is a first type of device;

a tenth program step in which if it is determined that the device is a first type of device then apply a first interrogation time interval and return to the seventh program step;

an eleventh program step in which if it is determined that the device is a second type of device then apply a second interrogation time interval and return to the seventh program step.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer network comprising a plurality of devices, said computer network including means for defining at least two types of device, and

a monitor adapted to monitor the different types of device using different monitoring procedures, said monitor being adapted to interrogate said different types of device at different time intervals.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A computer network as claimed in Claim ~~17~~ 16 in which said monitor is adapted to interrogate said different types of devices using different protocols.

19. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 16 in which said different types of device comprise core devices and edge devices.

20. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 16 in which said different types of device are defined in terms of the number of other devices a particular device is connected to.

21. (Original) A computer network comprising a plurality of devices, said computer network including a monitor for monitoring the network, said monitor including means for determining the number of devices in the network to be monitored, and means for changing the monitoring procedure in accordance with the determined number.

22. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 21 in which the monitor is adapted for interrogating the devices in the network and the means for changing the monitoring procedure comprises means for changing the frequency of interrogation of devices as the determined number changes.

23. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 21 in which the monitor is adapted for interrogating the devices using a protocol and the means for

changing the monitoring procedure comprises means for changing the protocol used to monitor devices as the determined number changes.

24. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 21 including means for providing one or more ranges of numbers, and means for determining which range the determined number falls into, and the means for changing the monitoring procedure is adapted to change the monitoring procedure in accordance with the range of numbers in which the determined number falls.

25. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 21 including means for dividing the devices into defined types and the monitor monitors the different types of devices using different monitoring procedures.

26. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 25 in which said defined types of device comprise core devices and edge devices.

27. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 21 in which said defined types of device are defined in terms of the number of other devices a particular device is connected to.

28. (Original) A computer network as claimed in Claim 21 in which the step of determining the number of devices is initiated when a monitored device is added or removed from the network.

29. (Original) A computer program, or a computer program on a computer readable medium loadable into a digital computer, or embodied in a carrier wave, said computer program operating in accordance with the method as claimed in claim 6.

30. (New) A method of monitoring a network of devices comprising defining at least two types of device, and monitoring the different types of device using different monitoring procedures, in which said different monitoring procedures comprise interrogating said devices at different intervals, the method further comprising determining the number of devices in the network to be monitored, and further changing the monitoring procedure in accordance with the determined number.

31. (New) A computer network comprising a plurality of devices, said computer network including means for defining at least two types of device, and a monitor adapted to monitor the different types of device using different monitoring procedures, said monitor being adapted to interrogate said different types of device at different time intervals, said network further comprising means for determining the number of devices in the network to be monitored, and means for further changing the monitoring procedure in accordance with the determined number.